

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 480

"Race for the Cure", but I would like to thank you for that and I'm pleased to know that. I'd also like to thank this body for the debate because I think the debate was what it should be this morning. It was focused on the provisions of the bill and I think that it's been a healthy debate. Let me tell you that I think this is a very modest proposal. As I told you earlier, I originally talked about establishing an office for women's health, as many...as...not many but some other states have already done, and I decided that wasn't the way to go. This body would be more likely to be favorable to a modest proposal like this, which really only calls for one staff person. The other staff people are discretionary at the pleasure of the Department of Health and Human Services and the executive director. I think the coordination and focus that would be provided by this bill are extremely important. I have already told you about the fact that oftentimes some employees don't know what other employees are doing, and these are employees that deal with issues affecting women's health. The advisory council is a device that has been used on other occasions for other agencies and it is a very important component of this bill because you have the medical expertise on that council to help the Department of Health and this initiative go in the right direction. One of the most important things about the bill, and we haven't really talked about this much, is that it sets up a fund which encourages public-private partnerships, and I do believe that there is a lot of money out there available for these kinds of projects--grants, money from private corporations, et cetera. I think this is a very important component of the bill. Finally, I guess I want to say to Senator Engel, we don't want to be treated like men, Senator Engel. That's the point. (Laugh) Physiologically, we're different and we want to be treated according to our needs and that's...that is part of the point of this. So I would ask you for your support to advance this to E & R Initial. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. The question before the body is, shall LB 480 be advanced to E & R Initial? All in favor vote aye, all opposed nay. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, I'd like a roll call vote, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: There's been a request for a roll call vote.